



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING AT MYLCHREEST COURT, PEEL

Monday 13th July 2026

Present: Alistair Lothian – AL, Lesley Parkington – LP, Angela Weston – AW,
Peter Gunn – PG, John Struthers – JS, David Leiserach – DL, Helen Robinson - HR

1. **Apologies:** Louise Whitelegg.
 2. **Minutes of last meeting:** having been circulated beforehand were approved by the committee and signed by Alistair Lothian, Chairman
 3. **Matters arising from previous meeting:** Alistair Lothian
 - Meeting with Ranald Caldwell: Meeting held and notes circulated to those who attended. They have a wider remit but are keen to get involved in helping to maintain footpaths. They would like to set up five groups of community rangers in other areas of the Island. The funding is coming from different sources such as materials from MNH and DEFA. They are not in need of funding at this stage, and neither are they ready for more volunteers. When they are ready for volunteers to help maintain footpaths, we can inform our members about the opportunity to volunteer.
 - AL/LP to try to re arrange the meeting with Ffinlo. AL has tried to contact him several times but has not had a response yet.
- Action:** AL to continue to try to contact him.
- All correspondence referred to in the minutes of the previous meeting has been actioned.
 - Permissive Path at Ballafesson: PG said it was more complex than was apparent and he is making further enquires.

Action PG

4. Website Review:

- **Guidance for Leaders:** In addition to the alterations already discussed at the last meeting, it was agreed we will add the phrase “When possible and safe to do so” after the statement about walk leaders going to the start point in the event of a cancellation. It was noted we use different phrases in different areas about adults attending with children. It was agreed that Responsible Adult is the best term and should be used consistently. Map reference on the risk assessment form should say SC or NX, but this would require a tweaking of the website.
- **Review of FAQ’s:** Walk Guidance: Agreed to change it to up to 4 miles for Thursdays and up to 14 miles on Saturdays. The phrase “up to” to be used for all walks. The guidance for the walk should also be in the Guidance for Walk leaders. Visiting Walkers:

Agreed to alter to contact not needed prior to walking, but walking is at own risk. There should be a hyperlink to the safety policy in the FAQ about Safety.

Action. AL to ask for a meeting with Callum and do the alterations to the website then.

5. Correspondence:

- An email has been received from someone asking if we can offer shorter walks of approx. 1 mile.

Action: HR to respond to say it isn't feasible for us to offer this.

- The committee were invited to attend a meeting to discuss a manifesto for our biosphere, but nobody was available to attend.
- The committee have been asked to trial a new tourist App. There have been some difficulties in accessing the App, but 2/3 people have managed it so far.

6. Treasurers Report: Angela Weston.

Current Account Balance: £ 14,064.86

Reserve: £10,872.81.

Fixed Term: The balance of £10,356.65. has matured and transferred back to the current account.

Action: AW requested the bank to roll the £10,000 into a new fixed term deposit commencing 14/07 at a rate of 3.69%. She will also ask them to resume sending correspondence to her as Helen received it this month.

Income: 4 x new members in June and 3 x new members in July. Total £70

Outgoings: none

7. Membership Secretary's report: No report.

8. Data Protection report: No report.

9. Safety Officer's report: John Struthers.

Safety officers report.

1 May - 12 July.

Tuesday walks to date 7, completed risk assessments 7 100%

Wednesday walks to date 4, completed risk assessments 4 100%

Thursday walks to date 10, completed risk assessments 8. 80%

Saturday walks to date 11, completed risk assessments 11 100%

Sunday walks to date 11, completed risk assessments 10 91%

Over all compliance for total of 43 walks to date and 40 completed risk assessments is 93%
Compliance has improved since reminder in last newsletter.

No incident form were submitted during this period.

It was agreed a reminder will be sent leaders that it is a requirement to complete risk assessments. This can be done when the new schedule goes out.

Action: LP

10. Footpaths Officer's Report: Paul Castle.

There have been 6/7 reports since last the meeting. He also emailed DOI about a path that is no longer shown on the definitive map on the Druidale Road, which they have replied to say they will investigate.

11.Event Updates: Lesley Parkington

Only 3 people have put their names forward for the Calf Trip on the 28th July but Steve, the boat man has said he can fill it. About 6 people have registered for the 2nd August. Agreed to readvertise the spaces on 2nd August in mailing tomorrow.

Action HR.

The Creamery cancelled the second visit at short notice, and new date will be arranged. MWT walk was arranged for 16th August, but it is MGP. MWT have asked to change it to 30th August at 10.30a.m. LP to ask it could be at 1.30p.m.

There is a walk in the schedule for Thursday 3rd September 10.30a.m.at Scarlett, but no leader. Paul offered to lead.

Lesley mentioned we need to think about Christmas Afternoon tea (agreed Ballagarey again). Carol Service (agreed 13th December at St Lukes). New Years lunch and ideas for winter talks are needed for the committee meeting in September.

Action: Committee

12. First Aid Course: 8 people have registered an interest.

Action: HR to email leaders directly and then the membership again if not enough response from leaders. We need 12 people signed up to run the course.

13. Any other business:

Agreed a reminder should be sent out about volunteers still needed for the walking festival.

Action: HR

Walk magazine is still coming to Lesley's. The committee were happy for her to continue receiving it.

LP received a report of children being allowed on a Sunday walk unaccompanied.

Action: HR to put a gentle reminder about children needing to accompanied by a responsible adult in the email going out tomorrow.

14. Date and Time of next meeting: Monday 14th September 2026 2p.m. at Mylchreest Court.

15. Meeting closed at: 3p.m.

Alistair Lothian

Chairman